

A PEER-TO-PEER ARCHITECTURE FOR SHARING  
VIDEO ON DEMAND CONTENT

ABSTRACT

The present invention is a method for providing a peer-to-peer architecture for sharing VOD content. Instead of requiring a large server to store VOD content, VOD content is distributed among one or more content devices. Upon receiving a request to view requested VOD content, an intelligent agent determines which content device contains the requested VOD content. The requested VOD content is then communicated to the requesting content device. Thus, the present invention alleviates the need for a typical content server, and therefore results in a more robust, flexible, and inexpensive network.